

1 (Applause.)

2 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.

3 Some of you may have noticed it has  
4 reached 11 o'clock, which was the ending time on  
5 the agenda we had put out. We're going to be  
6 going until midnight and we thank the --

7 (Applause.)

8 MODERATOR SIGALOS: -- Town Hall  
9 people for bearing with us. Steve Hunt. Joel  
10 Ware.

11 MR. WARE: Good evening, Mr. Chair,  
12 Honorable Commissioners. My name is Joel Ware.  
13 I thank you for attending and hosting this and  
14 attending on such short notice.

15 The power of the press belongs to the  
16 man who owns one. I'm hear to speak tonight in  
17 opposition to further consolidation. I ask you  
18 further to reverse the existing consolidation.

19 At this time over 90 percent of U.S.  
20 media is held by six corporations, six corporate  
21 persons. Clear Channel alone owns over 1200 radio  
22 stations.

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1           Now, corporate persons don't vote like  
2           you and I do. Corporate persons have a lot of  
3           money. Corporate persons can buy lobbyists.  
4           Corporate persons can corrupt the process.  
5           Corporate persons have a enough money to tempt  
6           honest politicians, to tempt ambitious young  
7           politicians to do the wrong thing.

8           It is clear to me that concentration  
9           of media ownership is directly harmful to  
10          communities, to our freedom of speech, to the  
11          freedom of the press, and to the democratic  
12          process itself.

13          The FCC was created with the intention  
14          of managing the public spectrum for the public  
15          good, for the public benefit. The public, not  
16          the private.

17          You, as commissioners, if you allow or  
18          tolerate concentration of ownership, you damage  
19          the public interest. To serve the public, you  
20          must not loosen the standards, you must tighten  
21          them.

22          I remind you of the example of Minot,

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1 North Dakota in 2002. People died. I remind you  
2 of the example of Moscow, Idaho. People may have  
3 died there.

4 Absent the ownership and robot run  
5 radio stations do not serve their communities.  
6 They do not serve the public interest. We need  
7 more competition, not less.

8 I urge you to honor the public will,  
9 serve the public interest, resist corporate  
10 forces. Gentlemen, I ask you to serve the people.

11 Thank you.

12 (Applause.)

13 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Joel Pocasangre.  
14 Ricardo Pocasangre. Kristen Walsh. Edward  
15 George. Jerry Bunce.

16 MR. BUNCE: Good evening. My name is  
17 Jerry Bunce. I'm a voting citizen. Thank you  
18 for the opportunity to speak to you this evening.

19 President Bush tells us the United  
20 States is a leader in the model of freedom in the  
21 world. We are the defenders of freedom, and the  
22 benefactors of freedom, such as free speech,

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1 freedom of the press, freedom of religion,  
2 freedom to make our living as we choose, freedom  
3 to live where we want.

4 These freedoms come with an  
5 obligation, an obligation to be informed,  
6 participating, voting members of our society.  
7 How are we to fulfill this obligation to be  
8 informed, intelligent, active participants in  
9 governing of our country?

10 We must be open and receptive to many  
11 ideas and opinions from many sources. When we  
12 lose sources of information we are less capable  
13 of performing our civic duties. We are crippled  
14 more and more every time we lose another source  
15 of information, another source of independent  
16 thought.

17 Many of us fear a gradual take over of  
18 TV, radio, newspapers, and internet sources of  
19 information by wealthy, conservative corporations  
20 with a goal of streaming a continuous flow of  
21 conservative ideas and thinking to all Americans  
22 all the time. This would be a tragedy.

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1 I'm here to say a similar take over of  
2 all media sources by progressive liberal  
3 corporations would be just as tragic.

4 We can only function as informed  
5 citizens when we have many sources of independent  
6 information. We are only truly free when we have  
7 a free flow of ideas and opinions and  
8 information.

9 I ask you to not allow any further  
10 consolidation of media providers.

11 Thank you.

12 (Applause.)

13 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Al Northern. Mary  
14 Beth O'Neill. Kenneth Richards. Michael Waters.  
15 Myown.

16 I'm sorry. What's your name?

17 MR. RICHARDS: Kenneth Richards.

18 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Okay.

19 AUDIENCE: What's the number?

20 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Mr. Richards is  
21 No. 164.

22 MR. RICHARDS: Okay. Britney Spears,

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1 public trust, follow the money. I've heard a lot  
2 of speakers tonight, and I don't need to repeat  
3 it.

4 Starting with Commissioner Copps  
5 talking about how we've been dumbed down the last  
6 34 years on civic intelligence, but how our media  
7 has -- because of follow the money, it's much  
8 cheaper to do the Britney Spears story -- did  
9 Britney Spears have panties on last night, or did  
10 she not? I watched Fox News this morning. She  
11 did not wear panties last night.

12 It's ironic that this meeting is being  
13 held this weekend. Sunday is Veteran's day.  
14 Now, in the fall of 2002 and into early 2003 our  
15 corporate media somehow convinced 77 percent of  
16 us that Saddam Hussein was behind 9/11. Here we  
17 here five years into this little Iraqi adventure.  
18 4000 Americans are dead, and Sunday is Veteran's  
19 day. That is what corporate media is about.

20 And here we are. It ain't good,  
21 folks. It ain't good at all.

22 I just have one question for Mr.

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1 Martin.

2 I see my time is up.

3 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.

4 MR. RICHARDS: One question.

5 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you very  
6 much.

7 MR. RICHARDS: I would like to know  
8 what job you're going to get after this because  
9 I'm sure it's a very nice job.

10 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you very  
11 much. There's many more people to go.

12 Michael Waters. Myown.

13 MYOWN: If you don't know who I am, do  
14 some research.

15 (Laughter.)

16 MYOWN: I'm going to start off with a  
17 poem that I wrote last week not even knowing that  
18 I was going to be here to read it to you. It  
19 starts off -- it's about earth and heart.

20 You see heart and earth they cannot be added  
21 together, like apples and oranges can be added to  
22 make whatever.

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1 Or can it?

2 If energy is constant like the beat of an  
3 instrument in a symphony of music what happens if  
4 you try and spell it?

5

6 E-A-R-T-H-H-E-A-R-T-E-A-R-T-H-H-E-A-R-T-E-A-R-T-  
7 H-E- A-R-T-H-E-A-R-T -- Woe.

8 Wait a second.

9 Earth is round where a heart could be added.  
10 I don't think I can understand this or even want  
11 to.

12 I see every action happen. Do our actions  
13 happen too?

14 Is earth and heart going to have to split?  
15 Earth and heart are separate.

16 They co-exist. Harvest this heart. Keep  
17 this earth as it is.

18 Though it may seem in abeyance. Now let's  
19 change this and work together to correct it and  
20 not let it smother into an exit.

21 We can do it. Heaven is here now. Don't  
22 drop the hat.

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1           This is a place to play baseball or  
2 football, where a dog can chase the cat.

3           Can't you see things are moving too fast?

4           Stop trying to change the past.

5           Relax.

6           The rule is bending more with each heavy  
7 foot on the gas.

8           How long do you think this bending will  
9 last?

10          This a no mix up. It's already been done  
11 correctly.

12          I think we'll be all right if we together  
13 keep it steady.

14          Your foot can't be so heavy. Why must  
15 everyone be where they're going so quickly?

16          Try going only 20 and living on solar  
17 energy.

18          We have to change if we want this entity to  
19 exist.

20                   MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.

21                   (Applause.)

22                   MODERATOR    SIGALOS:       Robert    M.

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1 Glanzmann.

2 I'm going to read a bunch of names and  
3 then we'll go again. Sam Parker. If you want to  
4 come forward please. Stephanie Button.

5 AUDIENCE: Could you read the first  
6 name?

7 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Sam parker,  
8 Stephanie Button, Sarah Lloyd, Larry Cali, David  
9 Keyes or Keves, Bob Barnes, Rose A. Lee, Kevin  
10 Thompson, Gregory Lewis, Jason Moorehead, Gordon  
11 Cuvey.

12 Robert Martin Glanzman.

13 MR. GLANZMAN: My name is Robert  
14 Martin Glanzman. Folks around here just call me  
15 Kiwi Bob.

16 I've been doing a little bit of  
17 thinking about tonight, and I've decided that  
18 this is a fraud that's being perpetrated on the  
19 American public and that, Mr. Martin, you're  
20 behind this fraud. Five days notice of a public  
21 hearing.

22 I'm going to ask you to do the right

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1 thing. You're the engineer of this train wreck  
2 in the making. You have the ability to apply the  
3 brakes. You have the ability to do the right  
4 thing, which is apply the brakes. You also have  
5 the ability to do the right thing and resign as  
6 head of the Federal Communications Commission.  
7 Take your choice.

8 I wanted to focus the rest of my  
9 testimony tonight on the fact that for nearly 32  
10 years now I've been a listener, an avid listener  
11 of KGCS-FM Bellevue, Seattle community radio  
12 91.3 FM, also on the internet at KBCS.FM. That  
13 is diversity in media.

14 But you've heard all of this tonight.  
15 You've heard the testimony of the majority of the  
16 will of the American people. The question is  
17 will you abide by that.

18 So I would like to, uninterrupted, put  
19 forth yet another point of view. I thought  
20 seriously about --

21 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.

22 Sam Parker.

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1 (Applause.)

2 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Stephanie -- Sam?

3 MR. PARKER: Yeah. That's me. Hi.

4 Before I begin, Commissioner, my name  
5 is Sam Parker. I'm 21 years old. And I, Mr.  
6 Martin, I'm ashamed enough for both of us,  
7 because anyone who schedules this hearing five  
8 days in advance and then dismisses the voices of  
9 the people that he's sworn to serve and protect  
10 obviously has no shame to spare.

11 Sirs, Commissioners, I walk down the  
12 street and I see that I have no place and no  
13 voice in the media that we have today. This is  
14 true for any minority opinion and group living in  
15 the U.S. In the television screens and radio  
16 broadcasts of our nation we see and hear not  
17 ourselves, but caricatures of ourselves, the  
18 people that corporate media and the other  
19 conglomerates want us to be.

20 I have no interest in being that  
21 person, sirs. We have no interest in being these  
22 people.

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1                   And yet here we are having a hearing,  
2                   not a debate, because it's pretty apparent where  
3                   public opinion falls on this subject, but a  
4                   hearing on whether to give these corporations  
5                   more influence over what we see and hear and  
6                   where these regulations will come at the cost of  
7                   community media and low power FM stations who  
8                   allow myself and my peers here direct access to  
9                   the media in order to shape our communities for  
10                  the better.

11                  Commissioners, if you strike down the  
12                  cross-ownership media ban, you'll only prove what  
13                  myself and the American public have been  
14                  suspecting for a while, that the FCC is no longer  
15                  the arbiter of justice for the broadcast media,  
16                  but rather the auctioneer who has sold our voices  
17                  to the highest bidder.

18                  I swear to you that this is not empty  
19                  rhetoric, Commissioners. This is what I and many  
20                  others believe. And I beg and plead the  
21                  Commissioners of the FCC to prove me wrong.

22                  (Applause.)

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1                   MODERATOR    SIGALOS:       Thank    you.  
2   Stephanie Button.

3                   MS. BUTTON:   Hello.    Greetings.   My  
4   name is Stephanie Button.   I'm 20 years old.   I'm  
5   from the Tri-Cities.   And as a citizen of this  
6   nation, a student, a voter, and as a member of  
7   the generation poised to take over our society, I  
8   strongly oppose the consolidation of media  
9   ownership.

10                  I live in a country that proudly  
11   proclaims freedom of the press and the protection  
12   and exchange of our free ideas, but under a  
13   consolidated media, I'll only hear one voice  
14   telling me what it thinks I should hear.

15                  I want to choose my media, and I don't  
16   want my attention to be held hostage by the  
17   highest bidder.   That's not my interest.   That's  
18   not their interest.   I deserve to be exposed to a  
19   greater variety of diverse opinions and points of  
20   view.   I crave local voices and an independent  
21   media.

22                  I'm a member of the public.   I'm a

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1 woman. I have a voice, and I refuse to let my  
2 voice be silenced. Our democracy is being  
3 poisoned and one of those poisons is a toxin  
4 called conglomeration of media.

5 Commissioners, I urge you, please  
6 foster individuality, creativity, innovation.  
7 Oppose the consolidation of media ownership.  
8 Video didn't kill the radio star. Corporate  
9 media did.

10 I've heard so many wonderful voices  
11 tonight from women, from minorities. I wish I  
12 could hear them in mainstream media.

13 Thank you.

14 (Applause.)

15 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Sara Lloyd.

16 MS. LLOYD: Hi, my name is Sarah  
17 Lloyd. I'm 21. My aspiration is to work in the  
18 media because I love creative voices and  
19 connection to community, but consolidation of the  
20 media crushes creativity and lies to the public  
21 by pretending that this country can be blanketed  
22 into one community that doesn't mind automated

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1 impersonal media outlets.

2 As in any people, America, Washington,  
3 Seattle, all have an incredible array of  
4 different opinions, especially different ways and  
5 reasons that we prioritize what matters to us.  
6 All of these viewpoints can't even be given  
7 justice on a strictly local level much less by a  
8 handful of corporations that tend to represent a  
9 very specific class and race and culture.

10 This is entirely alienating to those  
11 less represented, meaning the FCC is not doing  
12 their job of serving the public.

13 My generation is already frustrated  
14 with the media to the point that the words radio  
15 and especially media have a vastly negative  
16 connotation. Consolidation will do nothing but  
17 increase this by giving more power to the  
18 corporations who constantly insult us by what  
19 they target toward us.

20 Consolidation will further alienation,  
21 not just of youth, but of the majority of our  
22 country, and discourage the fairness. These

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1 regulation laws are very much still necessary  
2 given the already inadequate current media  
3 landscape.

4 I don't want to be fed media. I want  
5 to choose my media, and I want to make my media,  
6 and I'm sure I'm not alone. I want the public to  
7 be able to address the Commission without the  
8 majority of you leaving the room. And I want the  
9 Commission to do its job and acknowledge that  
10 consolidation is not in the public interest.

11 Thank you.

12 (Applause.)

13 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Larry Cali. Larry  
14 Cali. David Keyes.

15 MR. KEYES: Good evening,  
16 Commissioners. Thanks for sticking with us. I  
17 appreciate it. Thanks for coming west.

18 I'm the director of Community  
19 Technology Programs for the city of Seattle, but  
20 I'm here as a private citizen. And I would just  
21 point you to comments filed in this ownership  
22 proceedings by city council members Jean Godden

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1 and Nick Licata for another city statement on  
2 that.

3 And I wanted to -- I'm a big  
4 subscriber of newspapers, cable, and a big  
5 consumer of radio and internet as well. I come  
6 to you as a consumer and a couch potato as well  
7 as somebody that works in the field. And I just  
8 wanted to say that I feel strongly that newspaper  
9 and broadcast ownership should not be  
10 consolidated.

11 We did a survey of Seattle residents,  
12 and in that scientific survey, we found that more  
13 than three-quarters think it's important to have  
14 the capacity to produce local content and local  
15 programming. And 40 percent of broadcast TV  
16 watchers were not satisfied with local community  
17 coverage.

18 Are these tolerable thresholds? Well,  
19 I think we can do better, and I think you guys  
20 can help make that better.

21 The First Amendment, as I know, was  
22 founded on that principle of free expression and

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1 encouraging diversity of expression as the way to  
2 get to the truth. And I think, in doing that,  
3 the media consolidation threatens that First  
4 Amendment and threatens the foundation of our  
5 democratic process and stands in the way of our  
6 future with safe, healthy, and productive  
7 families, with citizens that participate in  
8 government and with safe communities.

9 The diversity is critical to having  
10 media ownership and media in our community that  
11 understands local needs. An example of that in  
12 my own family and my own community is that our  
13 neighborhood chamber of commerce really struggles  
14 to get its message out. It has a hard time  
15 getting adequate coverage in the media here, and  
16 consolidation is only going to make that worse.  
17 And their success is critical to keeping gun  
18 shots down in my neighborhood, and it's critical  
19 to my daughter getting to the school safely.

20 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.

21 MR. KEYES: And finally, I just wanted  
22 to say --

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1 MODERATOR SIGALOS: I appreciate your  
2 comments. Thank you very much.

3 (Applause.)

4 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Bob Barnes. Rosa  
5 Lee.

6 MS. LEE: Good evening, gentlemen.  
7 I'm 65, just a citizen. But as I was watching  
8 the proceedings tonight, I was thinking that they  
9 should probably have been a three-day hearing.

10 (Applause.)

11 MS. LEE: And, Commissioners, you want  
12 to hear from us that -- maybe we should have five  
13 minutes to speak and give substance. And I  
14 wonder as you go back to your hotels this evening  
15 if you're going to turn on the news or tomorrow  
16 morning and how much of this hearing is going to  
17 be reported. Where will be the substance? Where  
18 will be the truth? Will it be a one liner, a  
19 two-minute blip?

20 It seems to me that America is in an  
21 identity crisis right now between being a true  
22 democracy and being a corporate dominion.

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1 (Applause.)

2 MS. LEE: And it's not that we don't  
3 need big business, but there's something way out  
4 of balance between the micro and the macro. And  
5 this country was founded on a rich assortment of  
6 ideas and creativity. And when we have this  
7 sterile, homogenous media on every night, every  
8 day, it diminishes us, and it undermines our very  
9 culture. And the media is the power of that.  
10 It's the distribution of information.

11 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.

12 MS. LEE: Keep in mind separation of  
13 the church, state, and corporation.

14 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you very  
15 much.

16 (Applause.)

17 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Kevin Thompson.  
18 Gregory Lewis.

19 Are you Kevin?

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: On behalf of  
21 Kevin Thompson, who I'm guessing left because  
22 he's in a wheelchair. I'm guessing that he would

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1       probably tell you that he had a TV program on  
2       called Club Diversity, which was a gay oriented  
3       program. I helped him on that show. That kind  
4       of show, which was on public access, is not seen  
5       on mainstream at all. You don't have any kind of  
6       programming that is found on the public access  
7       channel, the people's channel, on mainstream.

8               That's why their voices that are the  
9       disenfranchised of this community are on that  
10      channel because you won't find them on  
11      mainstream.

12             I have a show on that channel as well.  
13      It shows a lot of cultural events that I don't  
14      see covered anywhere. I've covered cultural  
15      events here at Town Hall. I never see them on  
16      mainstream TV. That's a shame. And by  
17      consolidating you're screwing us all over.

18             (Applause.)

19             MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.

20             Gregory Lewis. Jason Moorebead.  
21      Jason Moorebead.

22             AUDIENCE: What's the number?

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1                   MODERATOR SIGALOS: I'll tell you in  
2 just a second.

3                   Gordon Cuvey. Before you begin,  
4 Gordon, I'm going to call out a few more people  
5 just to get them up here.

6                   Margaret Swartzman. If these people  
7 could please come forward. Margaret Swartzman,  
8 Don Franks, Damon Dickey -- hope you understood  
9 that, Damon -- Rick Rosenberry, Dennis Lane,  
10 Jarod Winkel, Madeleine Sosin, Susan Gleason,  
11 Livia Jackson, Adam Todd, Nathaniel James, Mike  
12 Stuart.

13                  Go ahead, Mr. Cuvey.

14                  MR. CUVEY: Okay. My name is Gordon  
15 Cuvey. I'm the executive producer of Music  
16 Intercity Television show. It's the only hip-hop  
17 and R&B music video show on Comcast On Demand all  
18 over western Washington, and we're also on  
19 S.C.A.N. TV 77 to 29. But that's not what I'm  
20 here to talk about.

21                  I want you guys to take note on this.  
22 I'm here to talk about why I refuse media

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1       conglomeration.       Because, for instance, KGR  
2       Radio, I'm -- I've been highly outspoken about  
3       KGR. In 18 years -- you talk about a lack of  
4       diversity. It's a Clear Channel station. 18  
5       years they've never had an African American on  
6       the air when -- it's a sports channel. Football,  
7       basketball and baseball are dominated by the  
8       African Americans and people of color. They've  
9       never had a African American on the air. I want  
10      you guys to do something about this.

11                               (Applause.)

12               MR. CUVEY: This is so serious that  
13      someone from the FCC, a former lawyer who's no  
14      longer there from the FCC -- I mean from Clear  
15      Channel, came up and met with us. Carl Mack, who  
16      used to be the NAACP chairman here. And since  
17      then they have banned me from calling in there  
18      and they called -- And another thing, I'm known  
19      as a black racist by KGR.

20               I want the FCC -- now, you talk about  
21      diversity. The media in this town is terrible.  
22      A perfect example is KGR radio. Now it's like

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1 the old boy network in radio up here in Seattle  
2 where white person help another white person get  
3 jobs. It's a problem here. It's a problem at  
4 KRO. It's a problem at KVI and all these radio  
5 stations here.

6 Thank God for KRIZ and KYIZ, the only  
7 African American owned radio stations in the  
8 whole area, so you can hear Al Sharpton, where  
9 you can hear other minority voices, instead of  
10 strictly white voices like on KGR, which, by the  
11 way, has a contest every year where instead of 64  
12 basketball teams --

13 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you very  
14 much.

15 MR. CUVEY: -- it's 64 women all  
16 broken down in --

17 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.

18 MR. CUVEY: -- brackets. Now, you  
19 talk about sexist --

20 MODERATOR SIGALOS: Thank you.

21 MR. CUVEY: -- and racist. It's a  
22 problem. Do something about it.

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